



Mental Health Update June 22, 2007

Film: "Work and Recovery"

HowardCenter and the Matrix Center will premiere the movie "**Work and Recovery**" at 7:00 p.m. at the Contois Auditorium, Burlington City Hall on Friday June 29, 2007. The movie is approximately 25 minutes. It depicts the lives of five individuals living with mental illness who are employed in their community. The individuals profiled speak honestly and eloquently about how work has helped them in their personal recoveries. The short film provides a powerful message of hope, recovery, and the importance of work in people's lives. Refreshments will be provided by Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Ben and Jerry's, and Costco.

This movie was created in collaboration with *HowardCenter* and The Matrix Center at Horizon House, Inc. (For more information, please visit their website at <http://www.hhinc.org>). Funding was provided by The Center for Global Partnership, The Japan Foundation.

FUTURES PROJECT

Team Welcomes Trish Palmer!

The all-important administrative support functions of the Futures Project are now in the able hands of Trish Palmer who joined the Division of Mental Health this week. Trish brings in-depth knowledge and skills to the Futures staff. She served as an executive assistant in the banking industry and, more recently, worked in a paralegal and advocacy role for parents of children in Special Education. Trish will assume the duties formerly handled by Diane Cota who now serves as DMH's Administrative Support Coordinator. In addition to serving as Administrative Assistant for the Futures Team, Trish also will help support the administrative needs of the division. Contact Trish at 802-652-2002 or tpalmer@vdh.state.vt.us.

RFP for Crisis Beds

The Division of Mental Health is issuing a Request for Proposals to continue development of up to six (6) beds for crisis stabilization and psychiatric inpatient diversion capacity. The RFP seeks proposals from any of the ten Designated Mental Health Agencies. The deadline for receipt of letters of intent to submit an application is July 13th. The RFP provides instructions to applicants and a schedule for review of the applications. The review process is designed to meet Certificate of Approval (COA) requirements to allow the granting of a COA to selected proposals without additional review. Click the RFP button on the navigational bar of the DMH Web site to access the RFP and associated information.

Futures Advisory Committee Meeting Dates Set

The Futures Advisory Committee will continue to meet until the new Mental Health Transformation Council is formed. This will assure continuity of input and communication for the Futures Project. Advisory Committee members, we thank you in advance for your continued service.

The next two meetings are as follows: July 23 in Stanley Hall, Room 100, and September 24 in the Skylight Conference Room. Both meetings will take place from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.

The Corrections Inpatient Work Group minutes of June 11 and changes to the May 21 Corrections Inpatient Work Group are posted on the Mental Health website.

VERMONT INTEGRATED SERVICES INITIATIVE (VISI)

Peer Program Highlights

- **Northeast Kingdom (St. Johnsbury):** A co-occurring support group (Double Trouble) meets on Saturdays.
- **Chittenden County (Burlington):** Peer leaders meet Wednesdays at 4 pm to discuss co-occurring issues and there are two Double Trouble support groups meeting weekly. There was a peer picnic/meeting on Lake Champlain in mid June with 15 people attending.
- **Barre-Montpelier:** A peer group is meeting every other week, and they have begun work on a "Washington County Survivor's Guide" for services as their first project. A weekly video education/discussion series will begin on July 18, 2007 in Montpelier.
- **Lamoille County (Morrisville):** VISI peer activities have begun at the 2020 Clubhouse (drop in center). It will serve as a site for a six week video education/discussion group beginning July 16th.

VERMONT STATE HOSPITAL CENSUS

The Vermont State Hospital Census was 46 as of midnight Wednesday night. The average census for the past 45 days was 46.